



16th Special Operations Wing

Hurlburt Field, Fla.

May 18, 2001



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Vic Owens

Prowling the jungle

(Right) Staff Sgt. Brent Troyer, a Tactical Air Control Party trainee leads (left) Airmen 1st Class Troy Hartson and John Moran during tactical movement training on Eglin Reservation May 8. Sergeant Troyer, the class leader, is a retrainee from the Air National Guard. Other local TACP

training includes small unit tactics, patrolling techniques and immediate action drills to counter an ambush. TACP airmen, who call in air support for U.S. ground troops, spend most of thier careers with the Army. For more information about TACP, call Tech. Sgt. Joel Hokkanen at 884-1144.

IOS program best in DOD

by Staff Sgt.
William J. Seabrook Jr.
Public Affairs

The 25th Information Operations Squadron's Command Language Program has been named the Department of Defense's best for 2000. Chosen from more than 260 other CLPs, this award represents the highest honors a linguistic program can receive.

The CLP is a training program, run internally by the 25th IOS, designed to keep its Direct Support Operators or linguists proficient in their language specialties and improve overall language comprehension.

Members of Air Force Special Operations Command aircrews, the DSOs provide real-time threat warning and situational awareness to their crews during high-risk, night, terrain-following infiltration/exfiltration missions into potentially denied or hostile territories.

"A viable language program is especially critical within the special operations community. The proficiency and regional expertise of our DSOs can quite literally mean the difference between life and death," said Maj. Tim Sipowicz, 25th IOS director of operations. "The unpredictable nature of the AFSOC mission demands that our linguists be ready to go at any time and that they are extremely competent and confident in their abilities."

"Because of the unit's small size it's not as easy to get the training accomplished as it is for bigger units," said Tech. Sgt. Stuart Mohr, 25th IOS Command

See *IOS*, Page 5

News



Reptile removal

Trappers take alligator posing threat to base community
Page 3

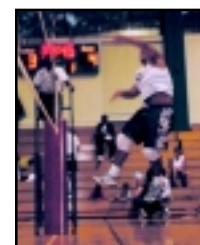
Feature



Water survival

Training course keeps airmen prepared to take the plunge
Page 10

Sports



Volleyball battle

The 16th Special Tactics Squadron and 16th Services Squadron duke it out
Page 15

VIEWPOINTS

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number.

Open lines of general interest will be printed in the **COMMANDO**. Others will be answered by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you, and perhaps improve their process. However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or email your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.



Col. David Scott
Commander, 16th SOW

Commander sends birthday greetings

By **Lt. Gen. Maxwell Bailey**
Commander, Air Force
Special Operations Command

Air Force Special Operations Command celebrates its 11th year as a major command Tuesday.

Our lineage however, goes back much further than these few years. In every conflict since the Revolutionary War, the United States has employed special operations tactics and strategies.

Today, AFSOC continues this tradition and employs specialized military expertise worldwide. On any given day, the tracks of special operators can be traced in more than 80 countries around the world – performing extremely difficult, complex and politically sensitive missions on short notice, in peace and war.

As I reflect on past and present accomplishments, I'm reminded that the strength of our organization has always been our mission-focused, skilled and dedicated people. Thank you for your many contributions to AFSOC, the Air Force and to the service of our great nation. (NFNS)

Air Force leaders leave a lasting impression

by **Maj. Joseph Pinckney**
355th Supply Squadron commander

DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. – I command a squadron of 260 people, but one individual has been on my mind over the past few weeks.

This young airman earned a below-the-zone promotion to senior airman in 1999, was a staff sergeant-select in 2000, and while taking numerous courses off-duty, he had expressed an interest in becoming an officer. The problem with this picture is that this sharp troop is separating from the Air Force in three months. He's leaving for various reasons, but he mentioned

that one of his flight leaders let him down when he needed his support; and although it occurred more than a year ago, this airman made up his mind then to pursue a different course for his life.

One of the topics I cover during officer feedbacks and discussions with squadron senior NCOs is that leaders have a duty to provide their young troops the roadmap for success in the Air Force. I think the spotlight is on officers and senior NCOs to set the example at every opportunity.

We can't expect future leaders, regardless of whether they are officers or NCOs, to be effective if we don't teach and men-

Hit and run

Comment: My vehicle was involved in a hit and run accident on base. I called the legal office to ask about procedures for filing a claim. They informed me per Air Force Instruction 51-502, *Personnel and Government Recovery Claims*, this type of accident can't be claimed.

A lot of other vehicle damages done on base can be claimed, so I'm wondering why hit and runs can't be.

Reply: I'm sorry this happened on our base. However, unless there's clear evidence the government was at fault, current policy doesn't permit the Air Force to pay for loss or damage caused by hit and run accidents. Please contact your private insurance company and file a claim with them.

Armed Forces Week message from president

by **President George W. Bush**

I'm proud to offer my sincere thanks during Armed Forces Week to the brave men and women who protect our nation.

During the past several months, I've been privileged to witness personally the depth of your dedication and the strength of your character. The professional manner in which you conduct your duties, your can-do spirit and your sense of patriotism all reflect the fact that our Armed Forces are second to none in the world.

In a world of both existing and emerging threats, you provide a strong and steady defense. Because of you, America is a secure nation where our citizens can hope, dream and live their lives in freedom.

My office holds no greater honor than to serve as your commander in chief. On behalf of all Americans this Armed Forces Week, I salute you for the tremendous contributions you make to our nation's defense. You are guardians of peace and liberty and have the thanks of a grateful nation. May God bless you all.

tor them. In the case of this young airman, one of his leaders let him down by not providing assistance when promised, not once, but three times.

After talking with the airman, I reflected on some of the leaders that I had the opportunity to work for and learn from.

While stationed at RAF Mildenhall, England, I served with a commander who seemed to remember the names of everyone he met. He also impressed me by remembering something special about each one of these people. It appeared effortless for him to spend 15 minutes in a deep

See **LEADERS**, Page 9



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News



Left photo by Capt. Carol Kanode; all others by Staff Sgt. Diane Thomas

Wrangling a 'gator

Alligator trappers authorized by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission came here Friday to remove a nuisance alligator from the gully off Cruz

Avenue. The approximately 6.5 foot gator was considered a nuisance because it was no longer afraid of humans. Even though several signs warning of fines of up to \$500 and six-months jail time are posted in the area, people on base fed the reptile to the point where the alligator lost its natural fear of humans and posed a

threat to people who approached the embankment. The gator, which had been in the gully for about four years, was killed by the trappers off base with intentions to sell the meat and hide. It had been six years since an alligator had to be removed from base. People are reminded not to feed any wildlife on or off base.

Air Force shooters win Atlantic Challenge

BISLEY CAMP, United Kingdom—The defending champion Air Force Atlantic Challenge marksmanship team edged the Royal Air Force team to retain the title and bring home the Atlantic Challenge cup. The competition, held here May 11 to 14, ended with the Air Force security forces marksmen scoring a total of 4,855 to the RAF regiment's 4,493.

"Each match is very involved, very different, and has multiple stages," said Master Sgt. Donald Bridge, Air Force team chief. "Every shot fired is for points and every stage has specific rules and time limits for competition."

The highest individual score was turned in by Tech. Sgt. Paul Tranetzke, 342nd Training Squadron, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, who shot the highest

of all participants in each of the five shooting matches — unheard of in the 13 years that the competition has taken place. Each of the matches takes place on a different local firing range here.

"Victory in the Atlantic Challenge is based on total team score accumulated from all five matches," said Capt. Josh Hendrix, team captain. "It is possible to win the first four matches by only a few points and completely lose the challenge in the last match. We have kept our bearing and focus throughout and it proved key to our performance."

The Air Force team, which is invited to participate every year, shot against the best the British Royal Air Force has to offer in the annual marksmanship competition.

This year's American squad was a total-force team led by Illinois Air National Guard Captain Hendrix and Sergeant Bridge of the Headquarters Air Force Security Forces Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Other team members included Tech. Sergeant Tranetzke, Tech. Sgt. Joe Provo from McChord AFB, Wash; Tech. Sgt. Todd Tureskis from Hurlburt Field, Fla; Staff Sgt. Bobby Singleton from Mountain Home AFB, Idaho; Staff Sgt. Fitzroy Howe from Kadena Air Base, Japan; and Airman 1st Class Chris Enfinger from Lackland.

Although the team sent seven shooters, only six shot in competition.

Based on information he learned from others, Sergeant Bridge said he thought the team shot as well as last year's team, or better.

"(The team) just gets better everyday," he said.

Sergeant Bridge said team members helped each other improve techniques and the results of their efforts are starting to show. He said the team members are turning in high scores.

Competitors shoot at targets 100-500 meters away. The average Air Force base has a range to accommodate a 25-yard shooting distance, Sergeant Bridge said, which is why the team went to Camp Robinson, Ark.'s state-of-the-art, long-distance shooting ranges. For example, one range, which has pop-up targets, automatically records a shooter's score each time a bullet passes through the target.

Shooters earned points for each target they successfully hit with their standard-issue M-16A4 rifle. The rifles are modified with a flat-top upper receiver and an added

Fatal crash

by Capt. Carol Kanode
Public Affairs

An airman assigned here died Tuesday afternoon in an automobile accident near the Heritage Gate on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

Airman 1st Class Brandon Beard, 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, was ejected from a 1993, green Cadillac about 4 p.m. and was pronounced dead at the scene. Airman 1st Class Thomas Means, 4th AMU, was reportedly driving the vehicle and sustained minor injuries.

The airmen were traveling westbound on Martin Luther King Boulevard and failed to negotiate a curve in the road, according to a Florida Highway Patrol accident report. The vehicle began to slide sideways and became airborne striking a Hurlburt Field fence, and overturning several times before it came to rest right side up. The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the accident.

This is the second fatality for the Hurlburt Field community in the last two weeks. Airman 1st Class John Meade, a member of the 16th Aircraft Generation Squadron died following a single vehicle accident May 8.

According to reports, Airman Meade was traveling west on I-10, near Chipley, Fla. about 3 a.m. when his 1994 Ford truck struck a guard rail, rolled, then struck an overpass support piling before landing upside down. He was returning from leave.

A memorial service was held for Airman Meade in the base chapel Thursday. More than 100 attended the event, including his family.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham

Tech. Sgt. Todd Tureskis, 16th Security Forces Squadron, practices for the Atlantic Challenge cup at Camp Robinson, Ark.

See **SHOOTER**, Page 7



Photo by Airman Sam Taylor

Dusty determination

Nick Strocchia, an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Course cadet from the University of Maryland, plows through the dirt at the Tactical Air Control Party obstacle course. The cadets negotiated the course during their recent visit to Hurlburt Field. In addition to completing the TACP course, the cadets visited and were briefed by the 373rd Training Squadron, where they saw a mock up of an AC-130U gunship, and the 16th Operations Support Squadron Life

Support Section, where they tried on various life support equipment and night vision goggles. The group had lunch at the Oasis Dining Hall, then toured an AC-130U "Spooky" gunship and an MH-53M Pave Low IV helicopter before visiting Commando Gold and the 16th Security Forces Squadron's Military Working Dog section. The base tour program orients visitors to various activities on Hurlburt Field and in the 16th Special Operations Wing.

AFA begins drive for new members

by **Max Friedauer**
Air Force Association
Hurlburt Field chapter president

The Air Force Association, a national, nonprofit organization that fights for better benefits for Air Force people and sports a strong national defense posture, conducts its annual membership drive at Hurlburt Field through June 1.

According to Capt. Edmond Sims, membership drive chairman, AFA's effectiveness in support of Air Force needs is directly related to the size of its national membership. All active duty, Reserve, Guard and civilian personnel are urged to join AFA.

"Membership in the association is open to all Air Force people," Captain Sims said, "and AFA is the only organization that represents the entire Air Force family." The association has long been regarded as the Air Force's professional society and, through its advisory councils, "hears the needs of Air Force people, takes positions on those needs, and fights for them," said Captain Sims.

The AFA is also in a unique position to help the Air Force since it has more than 250 chapter organizations located in all 50 states and at many overseas locations. These chapters provide a civilian-military forum for building support for Air Force needs that exists through no other organization, said Captain Sims. In this area, AFA members are encouraged to join the Hurlburt Field Chapter #398. Membership dues are \$36 for one year and \$90 for three years.

AFA members have many varied benefits, including a subscription to *Air Force* magazine, eligibility for several low-cost group insurance programs, AFA MasterCard, car rental and numerous opportunities to work with all elements of the Air Force family and community leaders to solve problems and effect change.

For more information, contact Captain Sims at 884-2874.

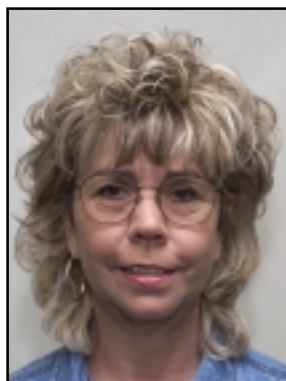


Look who's talking: If you were trapped in a TV show for one month, which would you choose?



"'Girlfriends' – because it's a girl thing."

Master Sgt. Marie Clemens,
Command and Control
Battlelab



"'Alley McBeal' – because of the future work environment."

Phyllis Pettigrew,
16th Services
Squadron



"'7th Heaven' – the show provides good family situations – options and obstacles. It makes teenagers think about life decisions"

Staff Sgt. Juanita Gilchrist,
16th Supply
Squadron



Courtesy photo

Tech. Sgts. Stuart Mohr and Carmen Ibarra, 25th Information Operations Squadron defense language program managers, prepare to fly on an MC-130H Combat Talon II.

IOS

Continued from Page 1

Language Program manager. "Our people have to accomplish the majority of this training on their own time because of our limited manning. The program operates with a fraction of the budget of comparable units, which means we have to be very creative in how to provide our training opportunities. When you combine this with currency requirements for as many as six different AFSOC platforms, time and money allotted for language training events become a rare commodity."

However, despite the unit's small size, it consistently exceeds Air Intelligence Agency standards, according to Sergeant Mohr. "Because of the nature of our business, we are compelled to be the best of the best and we strive to meet that goal."

The CLP must also be tailored to meet the unique needs of the AFSOC mission.

"The program basically consists of two types of training, target and global language. Target training helps linguists understand our adversaries, while global training helps us understand the basic language," said Sergeant Mohr. "It's critical to our mission with AFSOC that we have a complete understanding of the colloquial or spoken language. In 18 years of service in this career field, I've never been to a unit where so much emphasis has been focused on our abilities and language training."

Sergeant Mohr is quick to point out that a lot of credit for the success of the program is due to the support of the squadron's commander and director of operations.

However, they're just as quick to turn the credit back to the program managers.

"This program is now a showpiece for the information operations community. We have other much larger units visiting us to benchmark our program(s)," said Major Sipowicz. "This is the second time in three years we've won this award and the bulk of the credit for the success of this program falls squarely on the shoulders of Sergeant Mohr and his assistant, Tech. Sgt. Carmen Ibarra. When he [Sergeant Mohr] took over this program several years ago he said he wanted to make it the best linguistic program in the defense language community, he's done that and then some."

"Winning this award and receiving such accolades is reflective of the outstanding teamwork and NCO leadership displayed by the men and women of the 25 IOS; however, the real benefit of having a program of this caliber is what it helps us bring to our One Team, One Fight approach within the special operations community," said Lt. Col. Chuck Allison, 25th IOS commander.

Although administratively assigned to the Air Combat Command, the unit is operationally aligned with and tasked by the 16th Special Operations Wing.

"Being a member of the 16th SOW team makes us part of AFSOC's unique mission. Our DSOs fly one deep in a tactical situation making split-second decisions that directly affect the success of the mission and the lives of the crew," said Colonel Allison. "Earning this recognition reflects our unit's commitment to excellence and validates our ability to be combat ready to go Any Time, Any Place as full up Air Commandos."

2001 chronic critical skills list announced

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force has released the chronic critical skills list for 2001.

This list is designed to help reduce shortages of staff, technical and master sergeants in certain sortie-generating and readiness-related skills by giving airmen eligible for promotion to these NCO grades a promotion advantage.

Specifically, people serving in chronic critical skills are promoted at a higher rate than the Air Force average. For example, if the Air Force average for a particular promotion cycle is 15 percent, people in chronic critical skills are promoted at an 18 percent rate.

The current list will be in effect for the calendar 2001 staff, technical and master

sergeant promotion cycles and consists of the following AFSCs:

1A2X1, aircraft loadmaster; 1A3X1, airborne communications systems; 1A4X1X, airborne battle management systems; 1C0X1, airfield management; 1C1X1, air traffic control; 1C2X1, combat control; 1C3X1, command post; 1C4X1, tactical air command and control; 1C5X1X, aerospace control and warning systems; 1N0X1, intelligence applications; 1N1X1,

intelligence imagery analysis; 1N3XXX, intelligence crypto linguists (all linguists); 1A8x1X, airborne cryptologic linguists are considered as 1N3XXX for promotion cycle 01E for staffs through master sergeants; 1N4X1, signals intelligence analysis; 1N5X1, electronic signals intelligence exploitation; 1T2X1, pararescue; 1W0X1X, weather; 2A1X4, airborne surveillance radar systems; 2A5X3X, integrated avionics systems; and 2A6X3, aircrew egress systems. (AFPN)



Photo by Airman Sam Taylor

Spring cleaning

Staff Sgts. Zacory Logerstedt and Gerald Sierra, 16th Communications Squadron, rake up dead grass and leaves during the GI party at the support group dormitories Saturday. During the mandatory cleanup, called by 16th Support Group first sergeants to improve the overall appearance of the facility, dorm residents cleaned the entire building, from picking up trash and raking leaves, to pressure washing the walkways and stairs all the way to the third floor.

"The objective of this cleanup is to take proper care of our government facilities while simultaneously improving quality of life," said Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Alicea, 16th SPTG superintendent. "Not only folks from the support group, but the 16th Medical Group and Air Force Command and Control Training and Innovation Group pitched in. It's teamwork in action."

SHOOTER

Continued from Page 3

scope to bring long-range targets in view. It's also fully automatic, unlike its A3 counterpart, which has a three-round-burst capability.

"They're not match-grade M-16s, but they're about as close as you can get and still be service rifles," Sergeant Bridge said.

The master sergeant described the shooting matches as "marksmanship with a combat lean." Competitors wore helmets, load-bearing equipment, magazines, canteens and gas masks as they fired at targets during various matches.

This year's team was experienced. Three shooters and the team's rifle maintainer have competed in the past, including last year's overall champion, Tech. Sgt. Jerry Zabokrtsky from Tinker AFB, Okla., who came back to defend his title and help his team members.

"Oh, they know I'm coming," said Sergeant Zabokrtsky, before the competition. "They saw me this year at (Peacekeeper Challenge), and the commandant of the British air force came up and talked to me, and he goes 'You're not coming back are you?'"

Sergeant Zabokrtsky said because Air Force bases have the shorter ranges, about all he and his teammates can work on throughout the year are shooting positions and techniques.

Perhaps the most important person on the team was Staff Sgt. Brian Seveyka from Lackland AFB, the team's rifle maintainer.

"I go through the guns and make sure they don't have any flaws," he said. "If there are any problems, I check them or fix them."

Sergeant Bridge said Sergeant Seveyka, who is a combat arms instructor, was chosen based on his gunsmith experience. (AFPN)

(Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham, 314th Airlift Wing, contributed to this story)

1st Special Operations Squadron visits Misato Children's Home

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan – In 15 minutes, Mizuki Miyazato devoured more chocolate than seemingly possible for a person of her stature. While other children at the Misato Children's Home sang songs and opened gifts, Mizuki concentrated on consuming the heap of chocolate.

Her strategy was deliberate and forthright and went largely unopposed. After all, today was a celebration for her – her third birthday.

Complete with balloons, cake and gifts galore, the party was sponsored by the 1st Special Operations Squadron. Along with five other children whose birthdays fell in April, Mizuki sat at the head table and was honored before 45 members of the home and two dozen airmen and their families.

For the past five years, on the last Saturday of each month, members of the 1st SOS observe birthdays at the Children's Home. Every child is assigned a sponsor in the squadron who ensures the child has gifts and goodies on his or her special day.

"We always enjoy their hospitality when we visit," explained Lt. Col. Greg Buterbaugh, 1st

SOS commander. "It's developed into a long-term relationship. I'm certain these visits benefit members of our squadron more than they benefit the children. We're grateful to be able to brighten their lives – if only a bit. They certainly brighten ours."

Norikazu Tokeshi turned 10 years old in April. As he furiously unwrapped a collection of cap guns and racecars, he explained his enthusiasm.

"I've watched other kids celebrate birthdays here and I just had to wait for my turn," he said. "These cars are fantastic. I'm so happy."

Master Sgt. Richard Frazier, the squadron first sergeant, organizes the parties and keeps track of birthdays.

"I like to bring my kids so they can all play together," he said. "Kids have an incredible ability to transcend barriers and communicate without language. It's great to watch them interact."

Having taught at the Children's Home for nearly a year, Tomoyo Oshiro has witnessed the anticipation of the monthly merriment. She said the children eagerly look forward to the parties with their American friends. (NFNS)

Special OPERATORS

Five Air Force Special Operations members were chosen for the 2001 Air Force Association Team of the Year Award. **Master Sgt. Brian Douglas**, 24th Special Tactics Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C.; **Tech. Sgt. Matthew Shyrock**, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. John Spar**, 193rd Aircraft Generation Squadron, 193rd Special Operations Wing Air National Guard, Middletown, Penn.; **Staff Sgt. Danny Hedrick**, 353rd Operations Support Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan; and **Staff Sgt. Travis West**, 21st Special Operations Squadron, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

Each year the AFA recognizes the accomplishments and contributions made by Air Force enlisted members in specific career fields. The selections were based on the achievements the individuals made during 2000. The selectees represent the best in their respective career fields.

AECP selectees

The following individuals have been selected for the Airmen's Education and Commissioning Program: **Tech. Sgt. Susan Sorenson**, 25th Information Operations Squadron and **Staff Sgts. Calvin Roman** and **Lurie Walton**, 16th Component Repair Squadron.

OTS selectees

The following individuals have been selected for Officers Training School:

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Carmichael, 16th Mission Support Squadron; **Staff Sgts. Ronnie Birge** and **Donald Brad**, 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 7 and **Staff Sgt. Alvin Jordan**, 16th Operations Support Squadron.

Paralegal award

Senior Airman Alexandra Phillips, Area Defense Counsel, is the Defense Paralegal of the Quarter for January through March. She was selected by the Eastern Circuit Trial Judiciary, Air Force Legal Services Agency, headquartered at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C.

Quarterly award

The following individuals were selected as the quarterly award winners for the 16th Mission Support Squadron for January through March:

Airman Category – **Airman Reginold Sirmons**

NCO Category – **Tech. Sgt. Ricardo Osborne**

Senior NCO Category – **Master Sgt. Rodney Link**

Outstanding athlete

Airman 1st Class Kyle Minshew, Wing Operations Center, recently participated in the Olympic Distance Triathlon in St. Petersburg, Fla. He placed

third in his age bracket (20 to 24 years) and 30th overall, out of a group of 1,500 participants.

ALS Class 01-D

Congratulations to the following 41 senior airmen, who graduated from Hurlburt Field Airman Leadership School Class 01-D, May 2:

Matthew Spencer, 16th Contracting Squadron, received the John Levitow Award and Academic Achievement Award. **Elfreda Williams**, 16th Supply Squadron, was the Leadership Award winner.

Distinguished graduates were **Thomas Ford**, 16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron; **Lenita Robinson**, 16th Medical Support Squadron; and **Brian Fahey**, 20th Special Operations Squadron.

Gary Courterier, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, was Pave Flight Leader; **Charles Matthews**, 16th Security Forces Squadron, was Spectre Flight leader; and **Matthew O'Leary**, 6th SOS, was Talon Flight Leader.

Other graduates were:

Jamie Corson, **Harry Dean**, **Jeffrey Hewitt**, **Phillip Ronnlof II** and **Tracy Sursa**, 16th Aircraft Generation Squadron; **Andrea Romero**, 16th CES; **Bryan Heinze** and **Anita Reyes**, 16th Component Repair Squadron; **Jorge Febres** and **Jamie Williams**, 16th

Communications Squadron; **Joshua Chamberlin**, **Gregory Foster**, **Jeremy Johnson**, **Robert Keegan II**, **Michael Swanner** and **Jimmie Todd**, 16th EMS; **Jonathan Bowman** and **Michael Hilliard**, 4th SOS.

Francisco Moreno, 16th SOS; **John Adams**, 19th SOS; **Derek Aultman** and **Jason Smith**, 20th SOS; **James Johnson**, 16th Helicopter Generation Squadron; **Shawn Naus**, 16th Mission Sup-

port Squadron; **Mikell Jones Jr.** and **Alison Long**, 16th Operations Support Squadron; **Lee Hodge**, 16th SUPS; **James Strickland Jr.**, 16th Transportation Squadron; **Thomas Vargas**, 23rd Special Tactics Squadron; **Alecia Cecil**, 505th Exercise Control Squadron; **Christine Huff**, 720th Special Tactics Group; **Christopher Day** and **George Ruano**, 823rd RED HORSE Squadron.



AEF Center offers new Web format

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. – The Air Force's Web-based deployment tool, EAF Online, has been redesigned to give airmen more help with Air Expeditionary Force issues.

The Aerospace Expeditionary Force Center here redesigned the Web site to give users more information, enhanced access and the convenience of a single source for all AEF deployment information. The center is the agency for implementing the Air Force's EAF concept.

"This is a major milestone to provide better service to those deploying," said Lt. Col. Marie Barboza, the AEF Center's project officer for EAF Online.

The new format combines features of the previous AEFC site into a Web "portal" which provides access to various databases and can be customized for each user.

The site offers an array of information including deployment checklists, the AEF Commanders' Playbook, lessons learned, and the newest feature, the Commanders' Toolkit.

The major attraction for deployers is the position descriptions with information on the duties, requirements and conditions of specific deployed positions.

Users get the information by

first registering at the site, which establishes their profile. Future logins will provide information tailored to the user's career field. The deployment checklist includes training, medical status and other qualifications required for deployment, as well as links to references. Commanders can track training requirements of their people.

The Commander's Toolkit upgrade to EAF Online allows commanders to track the deployment status of their unit and people. Future enhancements will include a training module to track skill level training and a module to track operations tempo. All modules are updated by pulling data from existing Air Force data sources, such as the Personnel Data System.

"EAF Online is also very beneficial to Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members," Colonel Barboza said. The position descriptions and the Commanders' Toolkits include information for active, Guard and Reserve personnel.

The restricted Web site can be accessed via military and government computers at <https://aefcenter.acc.af.mil/>. The AEFC has also added a new public Web site accessible from any computer. It can be accessed through EAF Online or directly at <http://aefc.langley.af.mil/>. (AFPN)

LEADERS *Continued from Page 2*

conversation about astronomy with one individual and quickly shift to the subject of the world's best SCUBA diving locations with another. His concern for his troops was genuine and he demonstrated it in everything he did.

Another supervisor relayed a great sense of pride in the supply career field and never hesitated to talk about how essential supply was to the success of missions at home and abroad, despite downsizing, restructuring, and cross training.

More importantly, he took an interest in what his officers and enlisted members were doing to become better Air Force members. His advice on "try to learn something new each day" went a

long way in emphasizing that education and training was an ongoing adventure, regardless of rank.

Finally, another supervisor worked countless hours for the mission and well being of personnel under his charge. However, it was his constant reminder to take time for our families that made a lasting impression on me, because his working 18 hours every day was not what he wished for others to duplicate. These are just a few examples of traits I've seen and admired firsthand, and I am still trying to learn to emulate them.

The lesson that's reinforced in my mind over and over is that leaders have the potential to make both significant positive and negative impacts on their troops. What kind of impact are you having? (ACCNS)

FEATURE

Water survival

Keeping aircrews ready for the unexpected

by 2nd Lt. Rosemary Heiss
Public Affairs

"Eject! Eject! Eject!"

No aircrew member ever wants to hear those words, but all flyers have to be prepared for them.

The 16th Operations Support Squadron offers courses to keep special operators ready for the worst.

One such course is the water survival refresher – a follow-up to water survival school (a weeklong class in Pensacola).

The half-day course is taught by survival, evasion, recovery and escape specialists from the 16th OSS.

The purpose of the course is to refresh the skills required to use an assortment of survival equipment including personal flotation devices, water filtration pumps, seven- and 20-man life rafts and recovery hoists, according to Staff Sgt. Justin Sumerlin, one of four SERE specialists assigned to the squadron.

The course, which is required for Air Force Special Operations Command crewmembers every three years, also takes participants through several hands-on survival techniques.

Airman Barry Lott, 16th Special Operations Squadron, took the course for the first time Monday.

As a life support troop, his technical school trained him how to use the equipment, but the hands-on experience offered by the course here is best, he said.

Airman 1st Class Kristofer Kunz, 4th SOS life support troop said, "Instead of just learning by the book, you get the opportunity to learn what it feels like."

The favorite course activity, according to Sergeant Sumerlin, is the boat drop and drag – students are dropped from the back of a boat then dragged to simulate being pulled by a parachute caught by the wind. "It's the closest I'll get to water skiing this year," joked Capt. John Kemp, 15th SOS. "Actually it's realistic, hands-on training like this that makes you feel more confident during long, over-water flights."

Conducted in the sound, the course also includes a mock parachute canopy floating in the water that participants have to get under and maneuver through.

After exiting safely on the other side of the chute, students practice climbing into a seven-man life raft, the lip of which is several feet above the water's surface. Next they graduate to a 20-man life raft.

SERE specialists offer the course two to three times per month in the spring and summer and once per month during the winter.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Louis Ochoa

Tech. Sgt. Michael Barnes (left) and Coman Rothrock, 16th Operations Support Squadron survival instructors, prepare to conduct a water survival refresher course Monday in the Santa Rosa Sound.

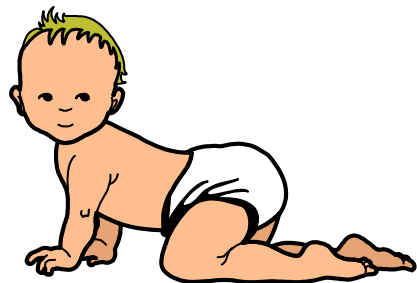


Students await instructions to get water-borne.



Staff Sgt. Christopher Nelson, 16th Operations Support Squadron survival instructor, demonstrates different types of equipment to students during the water survival refresher course.

Look who's new in pink and blue



Girls

Berlyn Adrienne, born March 23, to Airman 1st Class Alexander and Adrienne Mason, 16th Security Forces Squadron.

Erin Nichole, born May 4, to Capt. David and Niki Willcox, 16th Communications Squadron.

Boys

Nathaniel William, born Dec. 30, 2000, to Senior Airman William and Jennifer Kaval, 16th Aircraft Generation Squadron.

Christian Michael, born Jan. 23, to Staff Sgt. Michael and Danette Ferguson, 20th Special Operations Squadron.

Nicholas Gregory, born April 3 to James and Airman Jennifer Tucker, 20th SOS

Austin James, born April 3 to Maj. James and Mery Wise, Air Force Special Operations Command.

Steven Brenton, born April 15 to Airman 1st Class Joseph and Jennifer Harris, 16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

CMSAF addresses quality-of-life issues before House subcommittee

WASHINGTON – The Air Force's top enlisted person, Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch, addressed quality-of-life issues before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Installations and Facilities May 9.

In his remarks, he addressed the continuing need for improved quality of life for the more than 400,000 enlisted active duty, Reserve and Guard members he represents.

"We, the Air Force, are committed to taking care of our people and their families, who can be found in just about all corners of the world," he said.

Chief Finch relates the welfare of these people to Air Force readiness. But, he said, "because quality of life is a broad term, with different meanings to everyone, we continue to pursue improvements in several areas."

In written remarks, the chief identified core quality-of-life priorities: adequate manpower, improved workplace environments, fair and competitive compensation and benefits, balanced tempo, quality health care, safe and affordable housing, enhanced community and family programs, and enriched educational opportunities.

"Our Air Force comprises true professionals, willing to give their lives, if necessary, to accomplish the mission," he said. "I believe this level of dedication and commitment deserves a standard of living equal to their contribution to America and at least comparable with their civilian counterparts."

Verbally, he highlighted the workplace and living quarters. He also talked about lack of people and resources.

Even though he said he appreciates the initiatives taken last year by Congress in the National Defense Authorization Act, more must still be done to retain America's best and brightest, he said.

"And, it must be done in the near future, as approximately

"Our airmen residing on the installation deserve to return to adequate quarters whether it be in a dormitory or in family housing"

– Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch

193,000 airmen, 69 percent of the active duty enlisted force, will make a reenlistment decision between now and fiscal year 2004," Chief Finch said.

"Our people spend the majority of their waking hours in the workplace, and a quality workplace environment is an important issue to them," he said. "The Air Force has routinely had to trade off infrastructure and modernization to shore up near-term readiness."

"The current level of military construction funding only allows for repairs of the most critical work requirements and day-to-day maintenance," he said.

"The long-term implications of recapitalizing the Air Force at reduced funding levels directly increases operations tempo for our Air Force men and women as they try to repair and maintain aging systems and facilities," he said.

To buy this backlog down by 2010 will require additional money in our real property maintenance budget, he said.

"We can't continue to mortgage the Air Force infrastructure without significant, long-term, negative effects on morale, retention and readiness."

"Consequently, many of our NCOs continue to remind me we don't have enough people or resources available to maintain all of the aging Air Force facilities," he said.

"Knowing you can't get blood from a stone or more money from an already tight budget, a solution to this dilemma may be to reduce our infrastructure.

"Ultimately we must find a

way to match the amount of infrastructure to the people and money available to adequately sustain it."

Also playing an important role in quality-of-life are living quarters.

"Our airmen residing on the installation deserve to return to adequate quarters whether it be in a dormitory or in family housing," Chief Finch said. "Our Air Force is pursuing a balanced approach, using traditional MILCON and the privatization authority enacted by Congress to meet our housing requirements."

"I firmly believe there's a direct correlation between safe, affordable housing and being able to recruit, motivate and retain a top-quality professional force," he said.

The Air Force owns approximately 104,000 homes and leases 7,100 additional units. Using the current Air Force family housing master plan, the chief said the resources required to meet the defense secretary's goal of revitalizing inadequate units by 2010 will fall short with continued constrained funding. An additional \$2.4 billion is needed to meet the deadline.

"Make no mistake," he said, "the Air Force is committed to ensuring our members and families have a high-quality working and living environment."

"Our men and women are the bedrock of the Air Force team and are definitely our most important resource," he said. "I firmly believe that how we take care of them today is definitely linked to our readiness tomorrow." (AFPN)

Visit the Hurlburt Field Homepage

www.hurlburt.af.mil

LIFESTYLE

Military

Olmstead Scholar Program

The Olmstead Scholar Program provides an opportunity for up to three Air Force Academy, Officer Training School or Reserve Officer Training Corps graduates to study in a foreign language university abroad. Applications must be sent to the Air Force Personnel Center by Oct. 1. For more information about the program and eligibility criteria, visit military personnel flight's customer service section.

AFSA meeting

The Hurlburt Field Chapter of the Air Force Sergeant's Association holds its next meeting Wednesday at 3 p.m. in J.R. Rockers' back room. The date has been changed because of a division convention in Cocoa Beach, Fla. All ranks are welcome to attend – active duty enlisted and officers, retirees and family members. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Bryan Osborne at 884-6844, or visit the website at www.afsa567.org.

Recruiter team visit

People can learn more about the challenges and rewards of recruiting duty when the Recruiter Screening Team visits Hurlburt Field May 31 at 1 p.m., with a one-hour briefing in the 823rd RED HORSE squadron compound theater, building 91105. Senior airmen through master sergeants with less than 16 years total active federal military service are eligible to apply. Spouses are also encouraged to attend.

Community

Claims against airmen

Airman John D. Meade, a member of the 16th Aircraft Generation Squadron, passed away May 8 as a result of a single vehicle accident. Anyone with a claim for or against Airman Meade should contact Capt. Harry Seibert, 16th AGS, at 884-8468.

Airman 1st Class Brandon Beard, a member of the 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, passed away Tuesday as a result of a single vehicle accident. Anyone with a claim for or against Airman Beard should contact 1st Lt. Louie Cumming, 4th AMU, at 884-8507.

CCAF graduation

The Hurlburt Field Education Center closes Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the spring Community College of the Air Force graduation. Everyone is invited to come out and congratulate the graduates Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at The Soundside.

Youth summer program

Registration is now being accepted for the youth center's summer program, which begins Thursday. Children 6 to 12 are eligible. The program offers field trips, clubs and various activities. For more information, call Jim Dugan at 884-6355.

Art activities

The Arts and Design Society of Fort Walton Beach holds summer classes for children, beginning June 11. Each class runs for six weeks. Advanced registration and payment is required. The society is located at 17 First St. SE, Fort Walton Beach. For more information, call 864-2228.

Drawing Classes – Basic drawing techniques, Mondays and Thursdays from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Pottery Classes – Handbuilding and wheel work, Wednesdays, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Photography and Digital Arts Contest – ADSO sponsors its second annual exhibition of photography and digital arts June 26 to July 29. Cash awards will be given for first, second and third place in each category, with best of show and honorable mentions at the judges' discretion. Artists may enter up to three pieces of artwork. For more information on entry specifications and deadlines, call 244-1271.

Library activities

Once Upon a Thursday – The base library's weekly story hour is every Thursday at 10 a.m. at the base theater. This Thursday, children will learn about different species of turtles and their habitats.

Summer Reading Program – The library begins its summer reading program June 6. Reading logs will be available beginning May 29. Children can keep track of their summer reading and participate in special programs at the base theater every Wednesday at 1 p.m. through July 18. An end of season awards carnival wraps up the fun.

Club Beyond

Students in grades six through 12 can enjoy fun and fellowship in Club Beyond, Hurlburt Field's Protestant youth group. The club is sponsored by the chapel and has many activities planned for the summer. For more information, contact Doug Bowman, youth minister, at 884-5487.

Teen orientation

A one-hour teen volunteer orientation is scheduled today at 4 p.m. in the 16th Special Operations Wing testing room, building 90210. Teens and their supervisors will be briefed on program guidelines and set work schedules. A parent should accompany teen volunteers. For more information on the program, call Edilia Menges at 884-6107, or Susie Schaffer at 884-6246.

ITT specials

Information Tickets and Travel has tickets available for the following events. For more information, stop by ITT in the mini mall, or call 884-7848.

Four-day park hopper pass – Disney World offers a four-day park hopper pass special for all Florida residents. The pass is \$103 per person and is good through Sept. 30. Blackout date is July 4.

Universal Studios Orlando – Military Recognition Days through Sunday. Two-day passes for military members and their families are available for \$75 per person.

Hurlburt Field Chapel (884-7795)



Catholic Masses

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 and 10 a.m.

Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request.

Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday

Religious Education: September – May

Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:45 a.m. (praise & worship).

1:15 a.m. (traditional).

12:30 p.m. (Gospel)

Religious Education: August – May
Youth and Singles groups available

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel 1

Havdallah services: next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., Chapel annex

Muslim Services (882-2111)

Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

Qur'an: Saturday, 6 p.m.

At the movies



Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field (884-7648)

Friday – (R) "The Brothers," starring Morris Chestnut and D.L. Hughley – Jackson, Brian, Derrick and Terry are lifelong friends banded together to weather love's innate terrors and occasional triumphs. Amidst the career track, basketball and bar hopping, they love women, as many as possible, but shocking revelations test the foursome's friendship and change their dating habits forever.

Saturday – (PG-13) "Heartbreakers," starring Sigourney Weaver and Jennifer Love Hewitt – Max and Page are a mother-daughter duo who are in the middle of a con, when Page does the unthinkable – she falls in love. Things like morals and a conscience start to surface, which force mother and daughter to square off and examine their crazy relationship to keep their own hearts in one piece.

Sunday – (R) "Tomcats," starring Jerry O'Connell and Shannon Elizabeth – The Tomcats are a group of free-wheeling, sex-fueled single buddies who go up against each other in a betting pool that will leave the "last man standing" unmarried with the jackpot.

Eglin (882-1066)

Friday and Sunday – (R) "Enemy at the Gates," starring Jude Law and Ed Harris – With word of a Russian sniper, expert Nazi sniper Major Koenig is sent to Stalingrad to seek out and kill any sniper he might find. He soon finds himself locked in a duel of snipers – two men seeking to put a bullet in the other's skull.

Saturday Matinee – (G) "Pokemon 3," animated – The strange Pokemon Annon comes to a girl named Mi because of a strange card left by her father. With the help of Annon, a crystal begins to enwrap a tower. Mi's solitude and loneliness makes the entire tower a crystal. Ash's mom is taken to the crystal tower by Entei. So Ash must somehow rescue his mother and Mi.

Saturday Evening – (PG-13) "Josie and the Pussycats," starring Rachel Leigh Cook and Tara Reid – A group of lifelong friends are determined to take their band out of the garage and into the stratosphere – while staying true to their own look, style and sound. Their look's not trendy and neither is their sound, but they understand that real musicians have to pay their dues.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled play dates.)

LIFESTYLE

Mets vs. Braves – June 30 to July 1. The tour includes round-trip transportation, one night’s hotel accommodation, deluxe continental breakfast and club-level seating game tickets for both days. The cost is \$190 for single; \$150 for doubles; \$140 for triples and \$135 for quads. Payment due by June 15.

Classes

FSC




For more information on family support center classes, call 884-5441.

Give Parents a Break Day – Today, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Career Focus Orientation – Monday, at 9 a.m.
Sponsorship Training – Monday, at 1 p.m.
Résumé Workshop – Monday, at 1 p.m.
Commando Welcome Spouse – Tuesday, at 9 a.m.

Moms, Pops and Tots – Tuesday, at 10 a.m. for ages birth to 2 and Wednesday at 10 for ages 2 to 4.

Car Seat Safety Class – Tuesday, at 3:30 p.m.
Moms, Pops and Tots – Wednesday, at 10 a.m.
Smooth move – Wednesday, at 1 p.m.
Kids’ Smooth Move – Wednesday, at 4 p.m.
Deployment Readiness – Thursday, at 9 a.m.
Hurricane Awareness – Thursday, at 11 a.m.
Enhancing Relationships – Thursday, at 6:30 p.m.

Hurlburt Field Water Conservation Policy		
 Stage 1 Water Watch	 Stage 2 Water Warning	 Stage 3 Water Crisis
Days Allowed	Days Allowed	Days Allowed
Odd number buildings/houses Odd number days Even number buildings/houses Even number days	Odd number buildings/houses Tuesday and Saturday Even number buildings/houses Thursday and Sunday	OUTDOOR USE OF WATER IS PROHIBITED
Hours Allowed	Hours Allowed	Hours Allowed
6 to 10 a.m. or 6 to 10 p.m. ** but not both times**	6 to 10 a.m. or 6 to 10 p.m. ** but not both times**	OUTDOOR USE OF WATER IS PROHIBITED
Length of Time Allowed	Length of Time Allowed	Length of Time Allowed
No more than 30 minutes per zone	No more than 30 minutes per zone	OUTDOOR USE OF WATER IS PROHIBITED
New Sod Restrictions	New Sod Restrictions	New Sod Restrictions
May water each day for the first 30 days after planting, but never between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.	Limited to watering every other day for the first 30 days after planting, but not between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.	The laying of new sod is prohibited
	Additional Restrictions	Additional Restrictions
	Car washes are prohibited. (Washing of cars is limited to commercial car washes) Seeding is prohibited.	Car washes are prohibited. (Washing of cars is limited to commercial car washes) Seeding is prohibited.
Water use regulated or prohibited under this Water Conservation Policy is considered non-essential. Continuation of such use during times of water shortage or other emergency water supply conditions constitutes a waste of water and offenders will be held accountable.		

SPORTS

STS spans Services in volleyball

Special tactics team secures win by dominating game three
 by Airman Sam Taylor
 Public Affairs

The 23rd Special Tactics Squadron snagged a varsity volleyball victory over the 16th Services Squadron May 10, taking two out of three games.

Game one stayed steady to start, with the two teams swapping spikes unceasingly. Halfway through, STS poured on the power, grabbing the game 25-17.

In game two, Services destroyed STS after the game got going with a short-lived STS lead. Score after score stacked up to a solid 25-16 triumph, forcing a final face-off to decide the match.

The final fight saw the combatants clash over the net, neither group giving up without a raging resistance. But STS brought it back, and grabbed the game and the match, 15-11.

"We were missing four of our players, so this game was harder [than usual]," said Jamie Light, STS team coach, "but I didn't have any doubt after [losing] the second game. I knew we could pull it together. We have a good team, and if we keep our heads in the game, I think we can take the championship."



Master Sgt. Dave Saludez, 16th Services Squadron, attempts a spike while a 23rd Special Tactics Squadron player defends during intramural volleyball action, May 10.

Photo by Airman Sam Taylor

Sports Shorts

Yoga classes

Yoga classes are offered every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Commando Fitness Center. This is a low-impact intense exercise to enhance balance, flexibility and muscular strength. The cost is \$15 per month. For more information, call 884-6884.

May Fitness Month

People can receive stamps on their May Fitness stamp card by participating in Hurlburt Field fitness activities.

Each completed card can be redeemed at the fitness centers for a prize while supplies last. All completed cards are eligible for a grand prize drawing and a chance to win a \$150 MasterCard gift card. The overall Air Force grand prizewinner receives a trip for four to the Brickyard 400 in Indianapolis. Call the fitness center at 884-4412 for more details.

Okaloosa Knights

The Okaloosa Knights football team is looking for

coaches, Emergency Medical Technician staff and cheerleaders for the upcoming season, which begins in June. Applicants must be 18 years or old. For more information, contact Mike Mantini at 678-5483, or Luis Lopez at 651-0663.

High school football

Officials are needed for the fall high school football season. For more information, call Don Dineen, Miracle Strip Officials Association, at 244-5143 or e-mail dcdineen@home.com.

Basketball officials needed

Instructional Camp for basketball officials, new and experienced, is held June 8 to 10 at Pryor Middle School in Fort Walton Beach.

The camp offers extensive classroom instruction and on-the-floor evaluations with emphasis on three-man mechanics, positioning and basketball philosophies. College supervisors and assignors will be in attendance. For more information, call (850)-968-9299, or 882-8797 extension 202.

Youth tackle football

The Navarre Youth Sports Association has children's full contact football signup Saturday and May 26 at the NYSA sports complex on High School Road. Age and weight determine which team 5 to 13-year-olds are placed on. Cost is \$100 plus an annual family membership fee of \$25 that provides youths the opportunity to participate in year-round sports activities. (football, baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, cheerleading). Uniforms, use of all protective pads, referee fees and park maintenance are included in the sign-up cost. The football teams play against other area teams mainly from Pensacola. Games are held on Saturdays and practice schedules vary. The season officially starts Aug. 1 and includes a jambo-ree, eight scheduled games and playoffs. For more information, call Andy Anderson at 939-4313.

Gate to Gate Run

The Eglin Air Force Base Gate-to-Gate Run/Walk and 1 mile fun run is May 28 at 7:30 a.m. at the West Gate of Eglin AFB. Cost is \$14. For more information, call Lise Godfrey at 882-8651.